

**AMENDMENTS AND LISTING OF CLAIMS**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a cardiac support device to a heart of a mammal; the method comprising:
  - (a) surgically accessing a heart, including inserting a delivery device into a thorax of the mammal; the delivery device including a cardiac support device having a jacket;
    - (i) the jacket comprising a continuous flexible mesh net with a base edge, an opposite apex, first and second lateral edges extending from the base edge, and an open slot between the first and second lateral edges; the slot extending from the base edge and terminating at the apex;
    - (ii) the jacket further including:
      - (A) a first anterior strand secured to the base edge adjacent to the first lateral edge;
      - (B) a second anterior strand secured to the base edge adjacent to the second lateral edge;
      - (C) a first posterior strand secured to the base edge and positioned closer to the first anterior strand than to the second anterior strand; and
      - (D) a second posterior strand secured to the base edge and positioned closer to the second anterior strand than to the first anterior strand; and

- (b) providing a cardiae support device including a jacket; and
- (eb) positioning the jacket around at least a portion of the heart by applying a pulling force to the jacket from a position superior to the heart including pulling each of the first anterior, second anterior, first posterior, and second posterior strands to pull the jacket around the heart.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein:
  - (a) said step of positioning includes:
    - (i) pulling in a first direction a first portion of the jacket onto the heart; and then
    - (ii) pulling in a second direction a second portion of the jacket onto the heart.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein:
  - (a) said step of surgically accessing a heart includes surgically inserting a delivery device into a thorax of the mammal; the delivery device including the cardiae support device; and
  - (ba) said step of positioning includes surgically inserting a tool into the thorax in a position superior to the delivery device.
5. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein:
  - (a) said step of positioning includes using the tool to pull the jacket onto the heart.
6. (Original) A method according to claim 5 wherein:
  - (a) said step of positioning includes:
    - (i) using the tool to pull in a first direction a first portion of the jacket onto the heart; and then

- (ii) using the tool to pull in a second direction a second portion of the jacket onto the heart.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 6 wherein:
- (a) said step of using the tool to pull in a second direction includes:
    - (i) after using the tool to pull in a first direction a first portion of the jacket onto the heart, removing the tool from the thorax and surgically inserting the tool into another location in the thorax in a position superior to the delivery device.
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein:
- (a) said step of using the tool to pull in a first direction includes grasping a first strand secured to the jacket one of the first anterior strand, the second anterior strand, the first posterior strand and the second posterior strand; and
  - (b) said step of using the tool to pull in a second direction includes grasping a second strand secured to the jacket another of the first anterior strand, the second anterior strand, the first posterior strand and the second posterior strand.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9 1 wherein:
- (a) said step of positioning the jacket around at least a portion of the heart includes:
    - (i) from a first position superior to the heart, pulling the first posterior strand and the second anterior strand;
    - (A) the first posterior strand being pulled under the heart and the second anterior strand being pulled over the heart; and

- (ii) from a second position superior to the heart and lateral to the first position, pulling the second posterior strand and the first anterior strand;
    - (A) the second posterior strand being pulled under the heart and the first anterior strand being pulled over the heart.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 10 wherein:
- (a) before pulling the first posterior strand and the second anterior strand, surgically inserting a tool through a left intercostal region to the first position and using the tool to pull, individually, the first posterior strand and the second anterior strand; and
  - (b) before pulling the second posterior strand and the first anterior strand, surgically inserting the tool through a right intercostal region to the second position and using the tool to pull, individually, the second posterior strand and the first anterior strand.
12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 wherein:
- (a) said step of surgically inserting a delivery device into a thorax includes inserting the delivery device into the thorax to a position inferior to an apex of the heart.
13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 further including:
- (a) after pulling the first posterior strand, second anterior strand, second posterior strand, and first anterior strand, advancing the delivery device into the thorax to a position under the heart.
14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein:
- (a) the jacket further includes an apex strand secured to the apex of the jacket; and

- (b) after advancing the delivery device, the step of positioning the jacket includes pulling the first posterior strand, second posterior strand, and apex strand.
15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 further including:
- (a) after the step of advancing the delivery device and pulling the first posterior strand, second posterior strand, and apex strand, removing the delivery device from the thorax.
16. (Original) A method according to claim 15 wherein:
- (a) after removing the delivery device from the thorax, the step of positioning the jacket includes:
    - (i) pulling the first anterior strand to pull the first lateral edge and a portion of the jacket over the heart, and
    - (ii) pulling the second anterior strand to pull the second lateral edge of the jacket over the heart and adjacent to the first lateral edge.
17. (Original) A method according to claim 16 further including:
- (a) after said step of positioning, closing the slot by securing the first lateral edge to the second lateral edge.
18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9 1 wherein:
- (a) said step of surgically accessing a heart includes performing an intercostal incision and inserting a the delivery device;
    - (i) the delivery device including a tube with an interior, an open insertion end, and an opposite end;
    - (A) the tube including a plurality of notches at the insertion end; each of the first anterior strand, second anterior strand, first posterior strand, and second posterior strand being separately held within a respective one of the notches;

- (B) the jacket being held within the interior of the tube.
19. (Withdrawn) A device for placing a cardiac support jacket onto a heart; the device comprising:
- (a) a first tubular wall having an open insertion end, an opposite end, and an internal surface;
    - (i) the insertion end defining a plurality of slots; and
  - (b) a second tubular wall oriented within the first tubular wall and against the first tubular wall internal surface; the second tubular wall having:
    - (i) first and second opposite ends;
    - (ii) a plurality of grooves extending at least partially between the first and second ends;
    - (iii) an open interior volume constructed and arranged to hold a cardiac support jacket.
20. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 19 wherein:
- (a) said insertion end defines an oblique opening relative to the first tubular wall; the oblique opening including an elongate face;
    - (i) said plurality of slots being located in the elongate face;
  - (b) said plurality of grooves extend completely between the first and second ends of the second tubular wall; and
  - (c) there is an equal number of slots as grooves.
21. (Withdrawn) A device for placing a cardiac support jacket onto a heart; the device comprising:
- (a) a tubular wall having an open insertion end, an opposite end, an internal surface, and an open interior volume;

- (i) a plurality of lumens extending at least partially between the insertion end and the opposite end, each lumen of the plurality of lumens defining a lumen open volume;
  - (ii) the insertion end defining a plurality of notches; each notch of the plurality of notches being in the internal surface of the tubular wall and in communication with a respective lumen open volume; and
  - (iii) the open interior volume constructed and arranged to hold a cardiac support jacket.
22. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 21 wherein:
- (a) said insertion end defines an oblique opening including an elongate face;
    - (i) said plurality of notches being located in the elongate face;
  - (b) each lumen of said plurality of lumens extends completely between the insertion end and the opposite end; and
  - (c) there is an equal number of notches and lumens.
23. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 22 further comprising:
- (a) an end cap covering the opposite end; the endcap including a strand-holding groove and a holding slot there within.
24. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 21 wherein:
- (a) said tubular wall is constructed of a material having a flexibility that is greater than a flexibility of a human rib.